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The Urban District of Esher



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Senior Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st

1944

Urban District of Esher

ANNUAL REPORT of the Health and Sanitary Conditions for the Year 1944

JAMES FANNING, M.D., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

REGINALD F. WHEELER, M.R.San.I.,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

COUNCILLOR FINCH (<i>Chairman</i>).			
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„	EDWARDS.	„	SOAN.
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Councillor MRS. E. L. HALE, J.P.

(*Vice-Chairman of the Council*).

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Personnel.

Medical Officer of Health :

*J. FANNING, M.D. B.S. (London) D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

*REGINALD F. WHEELER, M.R.San.I., A.M.I.S.E.,
M.S.I.A., Certificates of the Royal Sanitary Institute
as Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Meat and
other Foods.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :

*JOHN C. ARMSTRONG, M.S.I.A., Cert. R. San. I., Certifi-
cates of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Sanitary
Inspector and Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

*JOHN W. HOBSON, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Certificates of
the Royal Sanitary Institute as Sanitary Inspector,
Inspector of Meat and other Foods, and in Sanitary
Science.

Clerks :

MISS M. E. WEDDERBURN.

C. F. PACKHAM (Prisoner of War).

(Serving with H.M. Forces as from 27/9/41).

MRS. AKERS (Clerk dealing with Civil Defence Casualty
Services).

Mortuary Keeper and Disinfector :

J. DOLLEY.

Clerk and Solicitor of the Council :

FREDERICK EDWARDS.

Public Analyst.

ED. HINKS, F.I.C.

*Contribution of salary made from the Exchequer.

Urban District of Esher.

COUNCIL OFFICES,
ESHER.

July, 1945.

*To the Chairman and Members
of the Urban District Council.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year 1944, which has been prepared in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 49/45, dated 19th. March, 1945.

The vital statistics of the district for the year are extremely good, with the exception of those for tuberculosis. The birth rate remained high and was associated with a very low infantile mortality rate. The maternal mortality rate was also low.

The low incidence of infectious disease was a satisfactory feature, and the maintenance of a low rate for diphtheria brings encouragement to the campaign for immunisation.

I should like to express my whole-hearted appreciation of the work of the staff of the department during a year which was particularly trying as the result of enemy action. I also offer thanks to those members of the Civil Defence Service who voluntarily assisted in Public Health work.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. FANNING, M.D., B.S. (Lond.), D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in acres)...	...	...	...	...	14,847
Registrar General's estimate of resident population ...	...	...	...	...	43,200
Number of inhabited houses—end of 1944—according to rate books	...	...	...	...	13,456
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£636,314
Product of a penny rate 1944/45	...	...	...	...	£2,537

Extracts from Vital Statistics :—

					Total.	M.	F.
Live Births	...	...	...	...	772	399	373
Legitimate	...	...	...	...		370	353
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...		29	20
Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...
—17.8.	...	...	...	...
					Total.	M.	F.
Still Births	...	...	...	...	20	12	8
Legitimate	...	...	...	...		11	7
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...		1	1
Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	...	...	...	...			25.2
					Total.	M.	F.
Deaths	...	...	...	...	510	242	268
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	...	...	...	...
—11.8.	...	...	...	...
Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's Short List)—	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...			Nil
Other puerperal causes	...	...	...	...			1
Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	...	...	...	...			1.2
Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—	...	...	...	...
All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...			24.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...			24.8
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...			20.4

BIRTHS

During the year 772 live births were registered, this being 32 less than last year's total. The rate per 1,000 population was 17.8, compared with an average of 17.6 for England and Wales.

Of the total number 49 or 6.3% were illegitimate.

DEATHS

During the year 510 deaths were registered, being 2 less than in 1943. The death rate per 1,000 population was 11.8, compared with the average of 11.6 for England and Wales.

This rate is slightly increased over that of the previous year. There were increases to record in deaths from violence and from heart disease respectively. The increase in the first was mainly the result of enemy action, and the latter is mainly a reflection of the number of old people dying of terminal heart failure. 63% of the total deaths took place at the age of 65 and upwards.

The infantile mortality rate was 24.6 per 1,000 live births and compares with 46 for the average of England and Wales.

This may be regarded as a very satisfactory rate.

CAUSES OF DEATH

	M.	F.	Total
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis—respiratory	7	5	12
7. Other Tuberculosis	1	—	1
8. Syphilitic diseases	2	1	3
9. Influenza	—	—	—
10. Measles	—	—	—
11. Acute polio-myelitis and polio- encephalitis	—	—	—
12. Acute inf. encephalitis	—	—	—
13. Cancer (of buccal cavity; and oesophagus (m) uterus (f)) ...	6	4	10
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	3	11	14
15. Cancer of breast	—	12	12
16. Cancer of all other sites	34	20	54
17. Diabetes	—	3	3
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions ...	17	39	56
19. Heart disease	75	86	161
20. Other circulatory diseases	10	14	24
21. Bronchitis	11	4	15
22. Pneumonia	12	4	16
23. Other respiratory diseases	2	4	6
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ...	4	—	4
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	1	1	2
26. Appendicitis	2	1	3
27. Other digestive diseases	1	2	3
28. Nephritis	3	3	6
29. Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis...	—	—	—
30. Other maternal causes	—	1	1
31. Premature birth	3	2	5
32. Congenital debility... ..	2	3	5
33. Suicide	2	2	4
34. Road traffic accidents	2	—	2
35. Other violent causes	17	24	41
36. All other causes	25	22	47
Totals	242	268	510

Birth-rates, Civilian Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality, and Case rates for certain Infectious diseases in the Year 1944. Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales	126 C.Bs. and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25,000—50,000 1931 Census	London Adm. County	England and Wales	126 C.Bs. and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25,000—50,000 1931 Census	London Adm. County
Live Births	17.6 †	20.3	20.9	15.0	46 †	52	44	61
Still Births	0.50 †	0.64	0.61	0.42				
Deaths:—								
All Causes	11.6 †	13.7	12.4	15.7				
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00				
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00				
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.04				
Diphtheria	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.01				
Influenza	0.12	0.10	0.11	0.08				
Small-pox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00				
Measles	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00				
Notifications:—								
Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01				
Paratyphoid								
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01				
Scarlet Fever	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.06				
Whooping Cough	2.4	2.41	2.67	1.57				
Diphtheria	2.49	2.49	2.29	2.90				
Erysipelas	0.58	0.67	0.69	0.31				
Small-pox	0.29	0.32	0.28	0.37				
Measles	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00				
Pneumonia	4.16	4.51	3.94	2.98				
	0.97	1.13	0.82	0.93				
<p>* Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :—</p> <p>Deaths under 1 year of age</p> <p>Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age.</p> <p>Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still)</p> <p>(a) Notifications:—</p> <p>Puerperal Fever</p> <p>Puerperal Pyrexia</p> <p>(b) Maternal Mortality:—England and Wales:—</p> <p>No. 140 Abortion with sepsis 0.31</p> <p>No. 141 Abortion without sepsis 0.09</p> <p>No. 147 Puerperal Infections 0.28</p> <p>Nos. 142-6 148-150 Other 1.25</p> <p>Abortion: Mortality per million women aged 15-45—England and Wales:—</p> <p>No. 140 with Sepsis 25</p> <p>No. 141 without Sepsis 7</p> <p>† Including Puerperal Fever</p>								

* A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths. † Per 1,000 related births.

‡ Rates per 1,000 total population.

SUMMARY OF BIRTH, INFANTILE MORTALITY & DEATH RATES FOR THE PAST SIX YEARS.

Year.		Births.		Infantile Mortality.		Deaths.
1939	...	15.7	...	45.9	...	10.5
1940	...	14.6	...	43.8	...	11.7
1941	...	14.3	...	41.7	...	11.6
1942	...	17.2	...	16.5	...	10.2
1943	...	17.8	...	31.0	...	11.3
1944	...	17.8	...	24.6	...	11.8

The number of bodies received into the public mortuary was as follows:—

For post-mortem examination and inquest ...	...	8
For post-mortem examination only ...	...	30
War Operations ...	...	30
To await burial ...	...	1
		69

RAINFALL.

Table showing rainfall in the district during 1944, taken at the Sewage Farm, Esher:—

January	...	...	...	1.23 ins.
February	...	...	...	0.71 "
March	...	...	...	0.11 "
April	...	...	...	1.30 "
May	...	...	...	0.95 "
June	...	...	...	2.19 "
July	...	...	...	1.94 "
August	...	...	...	2.95 "
September	...	...	...	2.59 "
October	...	...	...	2.66 "
November	...	...	...	3.61 "
December	...	...	...	1.27 "
Total				21.51 ins.

Compared with the figures for the previous year this is an increase of 1.69 inches.

Average yearly rainfall for the past 5 years: 23.94 ins.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1944.

DISEASES	Under			AGE GROUPS.										Over	
	Totals			1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Scarlet Fever	73	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	10	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suspected Food Poisoning	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	47	—	4	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	96	7	10	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	313	8	16	13	27	22	103	16	16	44	22	22	22	22	4

DISEASES	WARDS.										Stoke d'		East		West	
	Totals		Thames		Long		Escher		Claygate		Cobham		Abernon		Molesey	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Scarlet Fever	73	19	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	9	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	4	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	10	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suspected Food Poisoning	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	47	21	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	96	12	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	50	11	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	14	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	313	69	19	37	21	59	32	26	50	32	22	22	22	22	22	4

Food Poisoning.—On December 26th a telephone message was received from a doctor to the effect that members of a family she was attending were suffering from symptoms which could not be attributed to any known disease, and which might be due to some form of food poisoning. The household consisted of six adults and two infants. Within one hour of partaking of their evening dinner on Christmas Day, five of the six adults had been seized with sudden symptoms affecting mainly the urinary system. In all cases there was frequency and urgency of micturition, associated with a considerable pain in the lower abdomen. There was also a varying amount of blood and mucus in the urine. Two of the sufferers had slight diarrhœa and two others slight vomiting, but these symptoms were not prominent. All the patients made a satisfactory recovery after a few days, but the illness was distinctly distressing and alarming while it lasted. As it did not seem likely that a living organism was the cause of the trouble, attention was directed mainly to the discovery of a chemical origin. Specimens of the urine were sent for examination, and a large number of specimens of the actual food consumed were also analysed. The suspicion of a chemical poison was confirmed by the extraction from the urine of a substance which reacted in the manner of cantharides (Spanish fly) by raising a blister in a biological experiment. No similar poison was obtained from any of the articles of food and drink examined, so that the vehicle of consumption and the manner of administration remained unsolved.

Tuberculosis.—

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1944.

Age. Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	1	—	2	1	—	—	1	—
5	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
15	7	9	—	2	1	1	—	—
25	4	8	1	3	1	3	—	—
35	7	3	2	—	4	—	—	—
45	3	2	—	1	5	1	—	—
55	5	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
65 upw'ds	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	27	23	6	8	12	6	1	—

Three cases—two pulmonary and one non-pulmonary—came to notice after death. All of these were deaths transferable from another area.

There was a further slight increase in the number of new notifications, although the death rate fell slightly. The class which contributed relatively the largest number of cases was composed of women aged 15—35.

The following table shows how the disease has increased during the war years, and indicates that, on the whole, the increase has fallen more heavily on males than on females. Among males the age group most affected has been 35—45 and among females 15—25.

TUBERCULOSIS		1938.			1939.			1940		
NEW CASES.		M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Respiratory	...	10	11	22	24	12	36	16	15	31
Non-Respiratory	...	1	1	2	2	3	5	1	3	4
DEATHS.										
Respiratory	...	4	8	12	9	3	12	9	16	25
Non-Respiratory	...	1	0	1	2	0	2	0	1	1
TUBERCULOSIS		1941.			1942.			1943.		
NEW CASES.		M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Respiratory	...	22	14	36	23	12	35	31	15	46
Non-Respiratory	...	3	2	5	—	8	8	6	6	12
DEATHS.										
Respiratory	...	8	13	21	11	7	18	17	5	22
Non-Respiratory	...	3	2	5	1	3	4	1	2	3

TUBERCULOSIS		1944.		
NEW CASES.		M.	F.	Total
Respiratory	...	27	23	50
Non-Respiratory	...	6	8	14
DEATHS.				
Respiratory	...	12	6	18
Non-Respiratory	...	1	—	1

At the end of the year the following number of cases remained on the tuberculosis register:—

			Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
Males	...	...	...	96	...	16
Females	...	...	...	61	...	28
			<hr/>		<hr/>	
			157		44	
			<hr/>		<hr/>	

CASES REMOVED TO TOLWORTH ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	44
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	2
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	6
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	1
						<hr/>
						57
						<hr/>

CASES OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASE REMOVED TO HOSPITALS OTHER THAN TOLWORTH.

Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	1
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	2
						<hr/>
						3
						<hr/>

NUMBER OF NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED YEARLY DURING THE PAST SEVEN YEARS.

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Scarlet Fever	69	64	47	22	114	342	73
Diphtheria	34	11	9	10	3	1	1
Erysipelas	15	6	2	6	2	2	4
Pneumonia	32	20	36	24	44	15	9
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	—	—	9	6	4	4	1
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	1	2	10
Paratyphoid	1	—	—	1	2	—	—
Typhoid	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	5	6	2	2	4	2
*Measles	—	1	497	399	328	220	47
*Whooping Cough	—	7	53	400	33	92	96
Tuberculosis (all forms) .	23	41	35	41	43	58	64
Ophthalmia neonatorum .	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
Anterior Poliomyelitis ...	1	—	—	1	—	1	—
Induced Malaria	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
Encephalitis Lethargica .	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
*Suspected food poisoning	—	3	12	14	5	22	5

*Notifiable since October, 1939.

	Scarlet Fever.	Pneumonia	Cerebro-spinal Fever.	Erysipelas.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Dysentery.	Suspected Food Poisoning	Malaria	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Pulmonary tuberculosis	Non-pulmonary tuberculosis.	Totals.
January ...	10	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	8	1	7	1	31
February ...	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	2	—	24
March ...	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	20	—	7	3	44
April ...	7	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	2	18	—	2	2	36
May ...	7	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	21	—	7	1	43
June ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	23	10	—	3	—	42
July ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	5	—	3	1	13
August ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	—	8
September ...	5	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	10
October ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	4	2	12
November ...	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	3	2	13
December ...	4	1	—	1	—	8	5	—	11	—	—	6	1	37
Totals ...	73	9	1	4	2	10	5	1	47	96	1	50	14	313

CASE RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

						England and Wales	Urban District of Esher
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	0.58	0.02
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	2.40	1.60
Typhoid	...	...	...	...	...	0.01	Nil
Paratyphoid	...	...	...	...	...	0.01	Nil
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	0.05	0.02
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	2.49	2.22
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	4.16	1.08
*Puerperal pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	10.34	2.52

*Per 1,000 total births (i.e. live and still births).

Schools.—The number of children attending the elementary schools at the end of 1944 was:

				Boys		Girls		Infants
Claygate Council	...	...	...	39	...	55	...	55
Cobham Infants' Council	...	...	...	—	...	—	...	98
East Molesey Infants' C.	...	...	...	—	...	—	...	76
(+19 Nursery Class)								
Hinchley Wood Central C.	...	...	...	134	...	138	...	—
Long Ditton Infants' C.	...	...	...	—	...	—	...	84
Molesey Central C.	...	...	...	193	...	186	...	—
Thames Ditton Jun. C. & Infants' C.	...	...	...	66	...	69	...	68
West Molesey Junior C.	...	...	...	182	...	124	...	—
West Molesey Infants' C.	...	...	...	—	...	—	...	235
Esher C. of E.	...	...	...	46	...	63	...	55
Cobham C. of E. Central	...	...	...	96	...	71	...	—
Cobham C. of E. Junior	...	...	...	118	...	92	...	—
Cobham Downside C. of E.	...	...	...	7	...	8	...	14
East Molesey C. of E.	...	...	...	109	...	89	...	—
Long Ditton C. of E.	...	...	...	57	...	58	...	—
Oxshott C. of E.	...	...	...	8	...	6	...	16

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

1. The Staff of the Public Health Department is set out at the beginning of this report.

The provision of health services in the area remains substantially unaltered from that set out in recent annual reports.

The following table shows the number of pathological examinations during the year under review:—

Disease.					Total Number	
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	Urine	1	
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	Sputa	45	
Streptococcal diseases	...	...	...	Swabs	25	
Diphtheria	...	...	...	Swabs	76	
Suspected Food Poisoning	...	...	...	Food	1	
"	"	"	...	Urine	3	
Dysentery	...	...	...	Faeces	37	
"	...	...	...	Urine	2	
					190	

A number of samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination, details of which will be found on the following page.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. *Water*.—The water provided by the two main water undertakers who supply the district has remained above suspicion, and a constant supply was maintained throughout the year. No independent sampling of these supplies was carried out.

Except in the case of a very few dwellings in the rural part of the area, all houses are on mains supply. Ninety-three caravans and temporary dwellings on the Palace Estates rely on standpipes for their water. There still remain eight wells on which twenty-one houses are dependent for their supply.

The regular inspection and sampling of the wells in use in the rural parts of the district were continued, and eight samples of water from such sources were submitted for bacteriological examination, four of which were satisfactory.

In the remaining cases the water was of low standard, and the users were given instructions as to the precautions to be adopted when using the water.

One house and a dairy farm were provided with a piped supply and the use of spring water discontinued.

2. *Drainage and Sewerage and Sewage Disposal*.—No extension of the sewage treatment plant at any of the Council's three works has been carried out during the year and no new sewers have been laid.

3. *Rivers and Streams.*—Attention continues to be given to keeping the public watercourses free from obstruction and pollution.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) *Milk Supply.*—The farms, cowsheds and dairies have been inspected from time to time during the year, details being given in the report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Samples have been taken for bacteriological examination, for microscopic and biological tests for tuberculosis and the phosphatase test for detecting imperfect pasteurisation of the milk.

The results of the 71 samples taken for the year under review are tabulated below:—

	Total.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	
Samples of raw milk submitted for bacteriological examination and for the detection of Tubercle bacilli ...	27	11	16	14 contained B.Coli. 2 contained both B.Coli. & Tubercle bacilli.
Samples of raw milk submitted for the detection of Tubercle bacilli	33	32	1	1 contained Tubercle bacilli.
Samples submitted for the Phosphatase test ...	11	11	—	
	71	54	17	

The table above shows that a larger number of samples were submitted for examination for tubercle bacilli than in the previous year—namely, 60 instead of 45. In spite of this increase, the number found to contain living tubercle bacilli fell from five to three, or from 11 per cent to 5 per cent of the samples taken.

Particulars of the three samples found to contain living tubercle bacilli were passed on to the County Medical Officer of Health and the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The herds involved were examined, further sampling being carried out by the Ministry's Officer, and in one case a cow was found to be suffering from tuberculosis.

In another case a tuberculous cow had been seized under the Tuberculosis Order between the dates of the sample being taken and the results being made known and it may be assumed that this animal was the culprit.

In the third case it was found that a cow (which, according to the owner, appeared to be suffering from tuberculosis) had been sold for slaughter between the dates of original sampling and notification of results.

(b) *Meat and other Foods*.—Details of the inspection of meat and other foods are given in the report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

(c) *Adulteration of Foods, etc.*.—Full details of administration for the year are given in the report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES:—

PREMISES. 1.	Inspections	Number of		Occupiers Prosecuted
		Written Notices	2	
Factories with mechanical power	54	1	...	—
Factories without power	Nil	—	...	—
Totals	54	1	...	—

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES:—

PARTICULARS. 1.	Number of Defects.		Number of defects in respect of which Prosec- utions were Insti- tuted.
	Found.	Remedied.	
Want of cleanliness	1	1	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	1	1	—
Sanitary Conveniences			
Insufficient	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	3	3	—
Other Offences— (Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937)	—	—	—
	5	5	—

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1944.

*To the Chairman and Members
of the Urban District Council of Esher.*

April, 1945.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my fifteenth Annual Report upon the work of your Sanitary Inspectors for the year 1944.

The report is compiled in accordance with the directions contained in a memorandum from the Ministry of Health and as required by Article XXVII (18) of the Sanitary Officers Order, 1935.

It follows the lines of previous reports and, with one or two exceptions, is tabulated.

COMPLAINTS.

During the year under review sixty-one complaints were received and all were investigated.

INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

Number of houses and premises inspected (ordinary) ...	396
Number of houses and premises re-inspected	506
Number of miscellaneous visits	287
Number of visits to works in progress	60
Number of visits to dairies, cowsheds and milkshops ...	142
Number of visits to bakehouses	47
Number of visits to factories	54
Number of visits re disinfection	9
Number of visits re cases of infectious disease	649
Number of visits re disinfestation	93
Visits re Schools	4
Visits re Overcrowding (Housing Act)	17
Visits to A.R.P. Depots, Cleansing Stations, etc.	101
Visits re Cleansing of Emergency Water Tanks	5
Visits re Food & Drugs Act, 1938	108
Visits to Foodshops	547
Visits to Piggeries	7
Visits re Water Supply	9
Rat Surveys	31
Visits to Air Raid Shelters	101
Visits re War Damage	538

NOTICES SERVED.

Informal notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Abatement notices in respect of nuisances, Public Health Act, 1936, Section 93	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Certificates under The Increase of Rent & Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Acts, 1920-1939	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT:—

DRAINAGE SYSTEMS.

Repaired, cleansed, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Completely relaid	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Partly relaid	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Additional provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Gullies fixed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Cesspools emptied	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Intercepted from sewer	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

MANHOLES

New provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
New covers fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Altered or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

VENTILATING SHAFTS

New Mica Flap Valves fixed	2
----------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

SOIL PIPES.

Repaired	1
----------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

WATER CLOSETS

Rebuilt	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Additional provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
New pans fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Pans cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Flushing cisterns repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
New flushing cisterns fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Floors repaired or relaid	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Seats repaired or new provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Water supply reinstated or provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

SINKS, BATHS, ETC.

New fixed	2
Additional baths, sinks, lavatory basins	1
Repaired	1

WASTE PIPES, ETC.

New provided	1
Repaired	6

RAINWATER PIPES

New provided	1
---------------------	---

WATER SUPPLY

New storage tank fixed	1
Water reinstated or laid on	3
Service pipes repaired, etc.	4
Storage cistern cleansed	1
Storage cistern covered	1

DUST RECEPTACLES

Provided	11
-----------------	----

DAMPNESS

Roofs repaired	24
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed	12
Ventilation provided under floors	12
External walls pointed	2
External walls rendered	1
House walls treated with solution	5
Damp courses fixed	1

GENERAL REPAIRS.

External walls repaired	4
Windows repaired or renewed	7
House floors repaired or renewed	29
Skirting repaired	5
Doors repaired or renewed	2
Ranges and coppers repaired or renewed	10
Internal walls repaired	6
Ceilings repaired or renewed	6
Rooms cleansed	11
Accumulations removed	2
Animals removed	1
Sash cords renewed	3
Miscellaneous	2
Overcrowding abated	1

FOOD.

As mentioned in previous reports, the slaughtering of food animals in this District has practically ceased.

Occasional slaughter of animals takes place by permission of the Food Executive Officer of the Esher Food Control Committee.

Food premises have been regularly visited and invariably found satisfactory.

Appended is a list giving details of the class and quantity of food condemned as unfit for human consumption.

In many cases this food was utilized for animal feeding, or in compliance with the directions of the Ministry of Food, the material was returned through the suppliers to the recognised salvage organisation for reprocessing, whilst in a few cases it was found necessary to destroy it.

The following table shows the number of visits to shops for the purpose of food inspection, and the comparison with the number of these visits with the previous five years is interesting.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
To slaughterhouses	... 448 ...	37 ...	4 ...	1 ...	Nil ...	Nil
To foodshops	... 154 ...	390 ...	235 ...	243 ...	336 ...	547

The following number of carcases were examined:—

Pigs	27
------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

There were eight slaughtermen on the Register at the end of the year.

The following diseased or otherwise unsound meat and food was surrendered and destroyed or dealt with as previously mentioned:—

AS A RESULT OF GENERAL INSPECTION

FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED :

Fish	...	...	...	...	...	778	lbs.
Meat	...	...	...	...	...	18	..
Meat Roll	...	...	...	...	...	313	..
Oxtongues (2 tins)	...	...	...	...	...	12	..
Chopped Ham (4-6 lb. tins)	...	...	...	...	...	24	..
Pork Luncheon Meat (12 tins)	...	...	...	...	...	65 $\frac{3}{4}$	..
Potatoes	...	...	...	...	...	2352	..
Coffee	...	...	...	...	...	8	..

Flour	116	”
Oatmeal	366	”
Rolled Oats	140	”
Baking Powder	12	”
Butter	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	”
Jam	72	”
Cheese	196 $\frac{3}{4}$	”
Vegetables	112	”
Offal (pigs)	40	”
Bacon	48	”
Sausages	74	”
Dried Fruit	65 $\frac{1}{2}$	”
Bread	74	”
Cake	70	”
Meat Pies	13	”
Lentils	2	”
Milk Powder	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	”
Paprika	4	”
Sweets	5	”
Eggs (150)		

2 tons. 4 cwt. 2 qrs. 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.

TINS OF FOOD CONDEMNED :

Milk	131	tins
Fish	107	”
Fruit	30	”
Crabs	112	”
Soup	18	”
Various	121	”
		<hr/>
		519
		<hr/>

AS A RESULT OF AIR RAID DAMAGE

Bacon	171	lbs.
Sugar	205	”
Rice	138	”
Various Cereals	202	”
Bread	32	”
Cake	88	”
Soya Flour	16	”
Tinned Vegetables	5	”
Pork	20	”
Dried Eggs	8	”
Cocoa	14	”
Preserves	177	”
Syrup	17	”
Fruit and Vegetables	295	”
Lard	86	”
Margarine	20 $\frac{1}{2}$	”
Pork Luncheon Meat	7	”
Cake and Pudding Mixture	68	”

Flour	42	lbs.
Tinned Fish	25	"
Meat Pies	4	"
Tea	6	"
Gravy Powder	2	"
Tinned Soup	7	"
Confectionery	72	"
Assorted waste	562	"
7 Eggs.		
10 Bottles Cordial.		
20 Bottles Sauce, etc.		

1 ton. 10 cwt. 1 qr. 21½ lbs.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Sampling has been continued throughout the year, a total of 130 samples of various foods and drugs having been obtained and submitted to the Council's Public Analyst.

This total represents an average of 3.01 samples per 1,000 of the population based on the Registrar General's estimated population figure of 43,200 for mid-June.

The following table gives details of the samples obtained:—

	Formal	Informal
Baking Powder	—	2
Beef Extract	—	1
Beer	1	—
Boracic Ointment	—	1
Butter	7	—
Chocolate Confectionery	—	4
Cloves	—	1
Cocoa	—	2
Coffee	—	1
Curry Powder	—	1
Fish Cakes	—	1
Flavourings	—	3
Flour	—	1
Friar's Balsam	—	1
Gelatine	—	2
Ginger Wine Essence	—	1
Glauber Salts	—	1
Jam	—	5
Jeline	—	1
Malt Cocoa Spread	—	1
Malt Extract with Cod Liver Oil	—	1
Menthol and Wintergreen Cream	—	1
Milk	39	15

					Formal	Informal
Mint Sauce	...	...	...	...	—	2
Mustard (prepared)	...	...	...	...	—	1
Nerve Tonic	...	...	...	...	—	1
Nutmeg (Ground)	...	...	...	...	—	2
Paste (Fish)	...	...	...	...	—	2
Paste (Meat)	...	...	...	...	—	3
Pepper	...	...	...	...	—	1
Pudding Mixture	...	...	...	...	—	2
Raisins and Peanuts	...	...	...	...	—	1
Rennet	...	...	...	...	—	1
Rose-hip Syrup	...	...	...	...	—	1
Salad Dressing	...	...	...	...	—	1
Sauce	...	...	...	...	—	2
Sausages (Liver)	...	...	...	...	—	1
Sausages (Pork)	...	...	...	...	6	—
Sausage Meat (Pork)	...	...	...	...	2	—
Senna Pods	...	...	...	...	—	1
Soup	...	...	...	...	—	1
Soya-nut Meat	...	...	...	...	—	1
Spice (Pickling)	...	...	...	...	—	1
Sponge Cake	...	...	...	...	—	1
Tea	...	...	...	...	—	1
Toffee	...	...	...	...	—	1
					—	—
			Totals	...	55	75
					—	—

Genuine 127. Not genuine 3. Total 130.

The following statement gives details of the samples reported upon adversely by the Public Analyst:—

Sample No.	Details of Irregularity	Action taken.
11. Milk (Formal)	6% deficient in milk fat.	Letter sent to vendor.
29. Phosphor Nerve Tonic (Informal).	In the stated dose the amount of any of the ingredients was much below the minimum medicinal dose of the B.P.	No action.
103. Self-raising Flour (Informal).	Deficient in available carbon dioxide.	Letter sent to vendor.

FACTORIES.

The number of visits paid under the Factories Act, 1937, was 101.

47 to Bakehouses.

54 to other Factory premises.

Nineteen Bakehouses have mechanical power and 11 are without mechanical power. There are no underground bakehouses.

SHOPS ACT, 1912—1935.

No complaints were received as to contravention of the Acts.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

At the end of the year there were fifty two persons on the Register as follows:—

Retail Purveyors	...	...	...	...	...	2
Retail Purveyors and Producers of Milk	...	...	...	...	...	5
Wholesale Producers only	...	...	...	...	...	18
Milkshops in the district	...	...	...	...	...	19
Purveyors retailing milk from outside the district	...	...	...	...	...	8
						—
						52
						—

There were 21 Cowkeepers in the district and the total number of milch cows kept by them is 666.

The 24 dairy farms are situate in the following Wards:—

Claygate	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Cobham	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Esher	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Stoke d'Abernon	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Thames Ditton	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
							—
							24
							—

At the end of the year there were twelve farms which were producing "Accredited" Milk, the cowkeepers of which had been placed on the Roll of Accredited

Producers, and three producing "Tuberculin Tested" milk.

The dairies, cowsheds and milkshops have been periodically inspected and the half-yearly limewashing of the cowsheds has been carried out.

At one farm an additional cowshed has been provided by alterations to a farm building, and this and other work necessary to qualify for a "T.T." licence was still in progress at the close of the year.

The drainage in connection with a Dairy was improved.

Licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936 and 1938, have been issued as follows:—

Dealers' Licences to sell "Tuberculin Tested" Milk ...	5
Dealers' Licences to sell "Pasteurised" Milk ...	14
Supplementary Licences to sell "Tuberculin Tested" Milk ...	5
Supplementary Licences to sell "Pasteurised" Milk ...	6

SPRAYING PONDS AND DITCHES.

The systematic Spraying of ponds, ditches, water-courses and water holes in the district with Mosquito Oil has been carried out as in previous years.

In concluding this report I express my appreciation of the support received from all members of the Public Health Committee, and to Dr. Fanning, the Medical Officer of Health, I tender my thanks for his keen interest and unfailing kindness.

To the other officials I am indebted for their ever ready co-operation and advice and I thank them.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,
REGINALD F. WHEELER.
Senior Sanitary Inspector.

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